



Hoosier SAFE-T News

A periodic newsletter of the Integrated Public Safety Commission

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IPSC Resolution Thanks Legislators

Last year, members of the Indiana General Assembly provided the boost that helped launch Project Hoosier SAFE-T.

At its quarterly meeting, the Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) recognized legislators and other elected officials who were instrumental in the passage of House Enrolled Act 1001. The bill provided about \$12 million annually from the state's Motor Vehicle Highway Fund. As a result, IPSC will launch Project Hoosier SAFE-T's first statewide implementation phase later this year.

Thanks to the support of elected officials such as Lt.

Governor Joe Kernan, State Sen. Tom Wyss and former Speaker of the House John Gregg, SAFE-T's first phase is beginning on schedule.

"Indiana now stands at the forefront of the establishment of a national model for public safety and communications systems thanks to the authors and sponsors of HEA 1001," said IPSC chair Melvin J. Carraway. "Thanks to the visionary leadership of the Lieutenant Governor and the state legislators, first responders throughout Indiana will have an important tool that will make Hoosier communities safer.

Northern counties launched by spring

SAFE-T Begins Full Project Implementation

The year 2003 brings with it a flurry of activity for Project Hoosier SAFE-T. After nearly three years of planning and preparation, significant steps will be made toward the completion of the statewide interoperable voice and data system.

As the year begins, the Integrated Public Safety Commission is fully committed to completion of its first full SAFE-T implementation. IPSC and project vendor Motorola have completed the detailed

design review process to provide radio coverage in the 13 northeastern counties. Actual site construction is slated to begin in March to provide coverage in Elkhart, Kosciusko, Marshall and St. Joseph counties. Work should begin a few weeks later in Adams, Allen, DeKalb, Huntington, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells and Whitley counties. Construction in both of those sub-phases should be

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Hoosier SAFE-T gets \$2 million federal grant from USDOT

Project Hoosier SAFE-T recently received a shot in the arm from the nation's capital as the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) awarded a \$2 million grant to the Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC), thanks to the efforts of the entire Indiana congressional delegation. The grant will be used to fund the state's first unified digital 800 MHz radio network.

The grant is designed to support the development of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) by the Indiana Department of Transportation and its TrafficWise project.

Funding targeted for the Integrated Public Safety Commission (IPSC) was made available when Congress passed the Department of Transportation's annual budget appropriation. The bill contained an earmark for SAFE-T's activities for the third year.

"We want to thank our congressional delegation for its continued support of Project Hoosier SAFE-T," said IPSC Chair Melvin Carraway.

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completed later this year.

Behind the scenes, IPSC staff and Motorola have been working together to produce maps detailing the SAFE-T network's projected mobile and portable voice coverage for the area. Field coordinators have been sharing those plans with agencies and other interested parties. Engineers have been preparing for site construction in early spring, to be followed shortly with installation of the system hardware.

IPSC will also be assisting in the conversion of existing analog 800 MHz tower sites to the SAFE-T digital 800 MHz system in several Central Indiana counties, including Madison, Marion, Putnam, Vermillion and Vigo. The conversion will be possible through a grant made available by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) as a result of hazards associated with the Newport Ammunition Depot, where deadly VX nerve agent is stored. Conversion should begin by spring and is expected to be completed later this year.

Work will continue to progress in Southeast Indiana where an

earlier IPSC implementation has already provided some improved radio communication in the area. Public safety agencies in Decatur, Dearborn, Franklin, Jefferson, Ohio, Ripley and Switzerland counties can already benefit from the four new IPSC sites, and coverage will continue to improve as more sites are completed.

IPSC's final construction phase for 2003 will complete the infrastructure for the northern third of Indiana. Those sites will provide coverage for Lake, Porter,

LaPorte, Starke, Pulaski, Newton, Jasper, Fulton, Cass, Miami, Howard and Tipton counties. It should be completed by the end of the year.

"This is an exciting time," said IPSC Chair Melvin Carraway. "In a few months, first responders throughout Northern, Central and Southeast Indiana will be able to utilize the SAFE-T network and its advantages of interoperability, coverage and reliability."

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"We especially want to recognize the efforts of Senator Evan Bayh, Senator Richard Lugar, former Congressman Brian Kerns and Congressman Baron Hill, who played a vital role in ensuring continued funding for the SAFE-T network.

Carraway also recognized the support of INDOT, which has provided valuable assistance to the SAFE-T project

TrafficWise and other ITS systems offer a less expensive alternative to building new roads. Congress recognized that reality

a decade ago, creating a national ITS program in 1991. Since then, many states and metropolitan areas have recognized that ITS can be a cost-effective way to reduce congestion and improve safety.

INDOT expects TrafficWise to save motorists 10 to 25 percent in travel time, and officials hope for a similar drop in accidents. By reducing traffic congestion, TrafficWise also should reduce carbon monoxide emissions in the winter and the emissions that cause ground-level ozone (smog) in the summer.

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